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Mary M. Longdon, M. D.

Was born in Washington, Pa., on the 17th of October, 1869. Her education was begun in the home, and for several years supplemented by the excellent public school of her native town. Her parents removing to Allegheny City, Pa., she entered third ward preparatory class for the high school, winning the principal's prize and passing the examination with credit. While in the high school she taught some as a substitute, and after completing the course she was elected a teacher in her home ward. Having at times a difficulty in being able to use her voice so as to be heard in a large room of students, on account of a nervous affection of the vocal organs, she was advised to rest for a season. Her brother was in De Land, Fla., preaching, so she went there and entered a newspa- acquisition she learned the work done by a per office as proof-reader. As an additional compositor. It was during the time of the State Convention held in De Land, in January, 1895, that she made known to a few friends that the desire of her life was to prepare herself for the most effective missionary work. Deciding that a thorough knowledge of medicine would in many ways increase her usefulness and prove a blessing to many who suffered because of a lack of this knowledge, she entered a medical college, the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, located in Philadelphia, Pa., and completed a four-years' course. While a student in college Dr. Longdon was a member of the Student Volunteer Band, and

was selected and sent by her fellow-students as their delegate and representative to the International Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1897. As a student of missions and medicine she gained a cash award which a lady placed in the hand of the chief for distribution to a deserving student, also a position as assistant in the chemical laboratory.

Perhaps the greatest honor conferred was to be elected assistant resident physician in the institution from which she was graduated, as the experience thus gained will be of such value in her work in India. Her life of faith in preparing for the service is an inspiration to those who are acquainted with her efforts to be fully equipped. Only by the loving aid rendered so generously was this possible. Dr. Longdon chose India as her preference for work because of the pressing need. In her life we are able to see the silent work of the members of the C. W. B. M., for it was the report brought home from a meeting of the Auxiliary by her mother of the condition of the women and children of India, that touched her heart and prompted her to try to relieve them. The glory of being appointed a missionary by the National Board was crowned when, on her 30th anniversary, she was presented as a missionary at the Jubilee Convention in Cincinnati, last October, soon to sail for her chosen field. With a faith and trust that comes from a blessed experience she left her native land on the 13th of December for Deoghur, Bengal, India.

J. F. L.

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